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Common Sense in Foreign Policy. By SIR HARRY JOHNSTON.
(New York: E. P. Dutton and Company, 1913.)

This is a frank and unabashed statement of what Great Britain wants in the world, or at least what the author thinks she wants, and it is a relief after reading it to examine the map of the world and find that there is still a considerable portion of the earth's surface left unclaimed by Great Britain. Setting aside the justice of Great Britain's claims in particular instances, one cannot but marvel at the administrative ability of a nation which is able to maintain its supremacy and assert its interests in so many and such diversified parts of the globe.

In the opening chapter of his book, the author draws up a list of the "only things worth fighting for or against," so far as Great Britain is concerned, and among these things, which are at the same time "unquestionably *casus belli*," we find not only the territorial integrity of Holland, Belgium, Luxemburg and Denmark, but the interference by any other power with Egypt or Sinai, with the British sphere in Arabia, or with the independence and neutrality of all the rest of Arabia, the attempt by any other European power to obtain control of southern Persia east of Bandar Dilam, any interposition of a foreign influence in Siam west of the Menam River and the Gulf of Siam, any interference with free trade in China or Tibet, any setting aside of the principle of free trade in South America, whether imposed by a foreign power or voluntarily adopted by the states themselves, as well, of course, as any attack upon the territory of the British Empire. A formidable array to the uninitiated.

In separate chapters dealing with the relations of Great Britain to France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Russia, Portugal and America, the author sketches the lines along which the interests of Great Britain conflict or harmonize with the policies of those powers. If he takes considerable liberty in assigning to the great powers their future position in the world at the expense of the independence of the native races and smaller nations of Africa and Asia, it is but fair to say that he has in view not the exploitation of those countries, but their gradual development into self-governing colonies.

The book is written with the object of furnishing information upon foreign affairs to the man in the street who in this democratic age can make his voice heard, through press and parliament, in the decisions of the foreign office; and it may be commended as presenting within brief compass a comprehensive view of the imperial interests of the British Empire.

CHARLES G. FENWICK.